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OLC 69-0166

Chambo

26 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DCI Briefing of CIA Subcommittees of Senate Appropriations and Senate Armed Services - 21 February 1969

1. On 21 February 1969, the Director appeared before a joint session of the CIA Subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations and Armed Services Committees. The meeting lasted from 1040 until 1250 hours. [REDACTED] 25X1A sweep of the room, 212 Old Senate Office Building, was conducted and the [REDACTED]. Discussions included material from Special Intelligence and from the [REDACTED] system. No transcript was made.

2. Subcommittee members present (in some cases not for the full briefing) were:

Senator Richard B. Russell (D., Ga.), Chairman
Senator John Stennis (D., Miss.)
Senator Stuart Symington (D., Mo.)
Senator John L. McClellan (D., Ark.)
Senator Allen J. Ellender (D., La.)
Senator Milton R. Young (R., N. Dak.)
Senator Karl Mundt (R., S. Dak.)

3. Invitees from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee present were:

Senator J. W. Fulbright (D., Ark.)
Senator George D. Aiken (R., Vt.)

4. Committee staff members present were:

Mr. T. Edward Braswell, Chief of Staff, Senate Armed Services Committee
Mr. William Woodruff, Assistant Chief Clerk, Senate Appropriations Committee

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5. Accompanying the Director were:

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Mr. Carl Duckett, Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Mr. Bruce Clarke, Director of Strategic Research
[redacted] Chief, Presentations Staff, OCI
Mr. John M. Maury, Legislative Counsel

6. Senator Stennis opened by noting that Senators Peter Dominick and George Murphy, new members of his Subcommittee, were out of town. He said that a "loose" liaison between the two CIA Subcommittees was planned and that, at least for the time being, they would meet jointly under Senator Russell's chairmanship.

7. Senator Russell commented that "CIA gets a lot of blame even for the Pueblo which was on an NSA operation" and he therefore thought that in the "interest of obscurity" it might be better for the two Subcommittees to work separately, but Senator Stennis had disagreed and therefore joint sessions had been decided upon.

8. Senator Stennis commented that from time to time the CIA Armed Services Subcommittee might meet separately but in general he thought the joint meetings preferable.

9. The Director's briefing which ensued was based on portions of the attached text covering Soviet strategic force options, ChiCom advanced weapons, the Middle East, Arab terrorism, Berlin and Peru.

10. Significant questions and answers thereto were very roughly as follows:

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Chairman: How about the cultural revolution and Mao's position?

Director: Mao is still in control. Apparently the Red Guards got out of hand in doing what he originally wanted them to do and now he is trying to slow them down.

Symington: If, as a result of the death of some of the leaders in Peiping or Moscow, the Soviets and the ChiComs should be able to get together, wouldn't it be hard for us to maintain our number one position?

Director: I had not thought of it just this way but certainly the combination of Chinese manpower and resources and Soviet technology would be formidable.

Symington: Therefore, wouldn't it be in our interest to limit the spread of nuclear weapons?

Director: Certainly the less people who have them the better off the world would be.

Symington: So are you in favor of the NPT?

Director: I am afraid this is a policy question.

Symington: But the President is for it and you work for him.

Chairman: But he doesn't have to agree with him.

Fulbright: (to the Director) You said the right thing.

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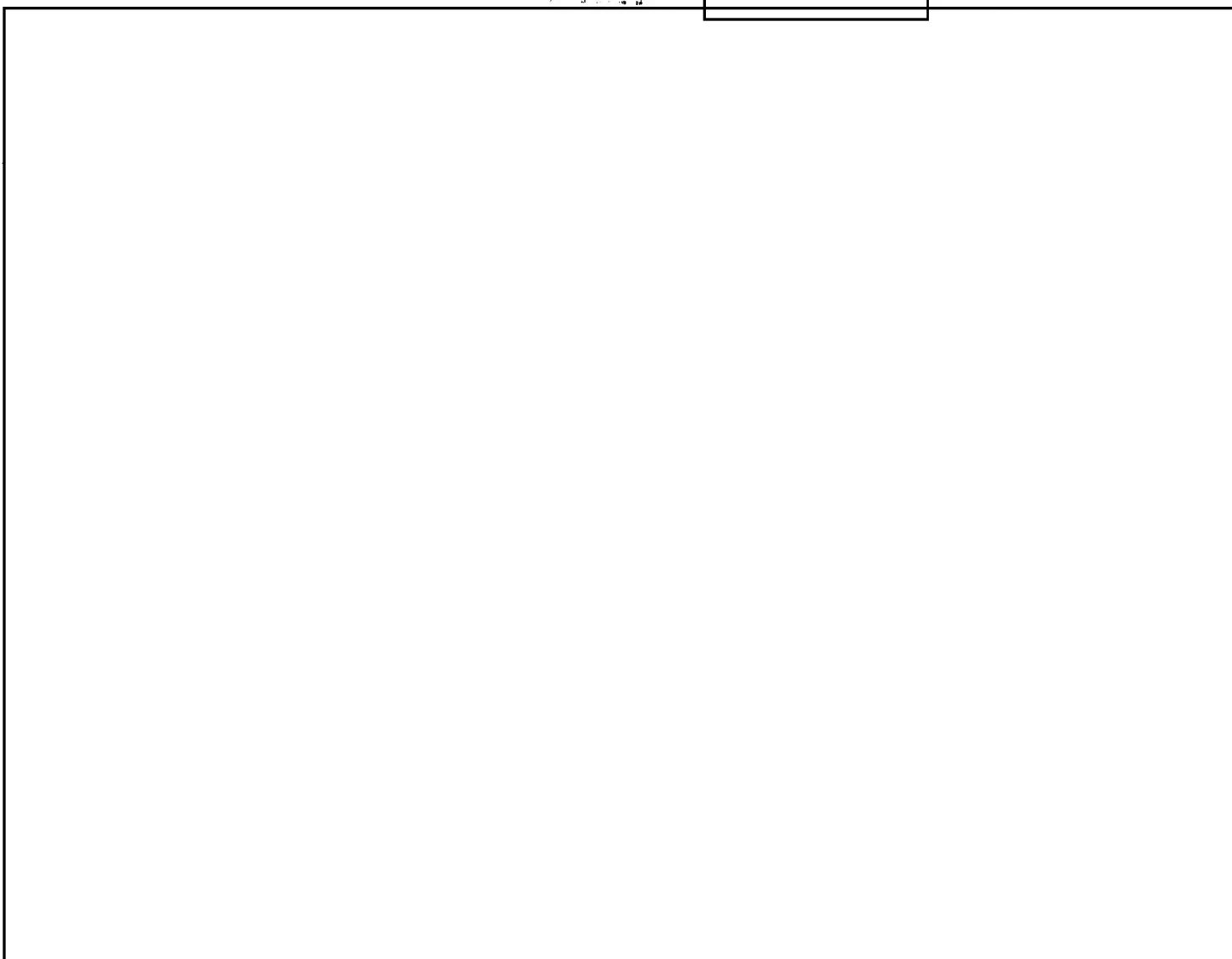
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13. Shortly after the briefing Carl Marcy, Staff Director of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, called to say Senator Fulbright had been so impressed with the Director's "objectivity" that he hoped the Director would appear before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee next week. Mr. Marcy commented that Senator Fulbright had found the Director's briefing far more useful than what he had been hearing from other agencies.

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JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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